

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Proposed drawing corrections are being submitted concurrently herewith by submitting substitute drawing sheets.

REMARKS

After entry of Applicant's amendment and response filed on October 8, 2004, Claims 1-9, 12-18, 21-42 and 45-60 are pending in the application.

Claims 33, 57 and 58 have been amended, as set forth herein.

Claim 34 has been canceled, without prejudice.

I. ALLOWABILITY OF PENDING CLAIMS AND INFORMALITIES

During a teleconference between the Examiner and the undersigned counsel during the week of January 17, 2004, the Examiner indicated that (1) all pending claims (Claims 1-9, 12-18, 21-42 and 45-60) were allowable with the exception of independent Claim 33 but that Claim 33 would be allowable if amended to include the elements/features of dependent Claim 34, (2) Claims 57 and 58 were objected to due to informalities, and (3) Figure 5 was objected to due to an informality.

In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, Applicant has (1) amended independent Claim 33 to include the elements/features of dependent Claim 34 (and Claim 34 has now been canceled), (2) amended Claims 57 and 58 to correct the noted informalities, and (3) is submitting a proposed drawing correction to Figure 5 for approval that correct the noted deficiency.

II. CONCLUSION

As a result of the foregoing, the Applicant asserts that the remaining Claims 1-9, 12-18, 21-33, 35-42 and 45-60 and the application are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests an early allowance of the application and Claims.

If any issues arise, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *rmccutcheon@davismunck.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Davis Munck Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.

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